

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of promoting the growth of a population of cells selected from intestinal epithelial cells, colonic cells, fibroblast cells, primary osteoblast cells and smooth muscle cells comprising contacting the at least one cell with a composition comprising a combination of a Fibroblast Growth Factor-CX (FGFCX) polypeptide and a FCTR_X polypeptide, wherein said composition comprises said FGFCX and FCTR_X in an amount effective to stimulate growth of said cell, and wherein said FGFCX polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a deletion mutant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and said FCTR_X polypeptide is selected from SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12 SEQ ID NO:14, and C-terminal fragments thereof having an apparent molecular weigh of approximately 35 kDa.

2. (original) The method described in claim 1 wherein the cells are mammalian cells.

3. (original) The method described in claim 1 wherein the cells are human cells.

4. - 5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A method of treating ~~an~~ a gastrointestinal inflammatory pathology in a subject comprising administering to the subject a composition comprising a combination of a FGFCX polypeptide and a FCTR_X polypeptide, wherein said composition is administered in an amount effective to treat said inflammatory pathology and wherein said FGFCX polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a deletion mutant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and said FCTR_X polypeptide is selected from SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12 SEQ ID NO:14, and C-terminal fragments thereof having an apparent molecular weigh of approximately 35 kDa.

7. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the subject is a mammal.

8. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the subject is a human.
9. - 10. (cancelled)
11. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the inflammatory pathology is inflammatory bowel disease.
12. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the inflammatory pathology is an inflammatory condition occurring in the colon.
13. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the inflammatory pathology is an inflammatory condition occurring in the small intestine.
14. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the inflammatory pathology is Crohn's disease.
15. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the polypeptide comprises administered to the subject intravenously.
16. (original) The method described in claim 6 wherein the polypeptide comprises administered to the subject subcutaneously.
17. (currently amended) A method of delaying the onset of an a gastrointestinal inflammatory pathology in a subject comprising administering to the subject a composition comprising a combination of a FGFCX polypeptide and a FCTR polypeptide, wherein said composition is administered in an amount effective to delay the onset of said inflammatory pathology and wherein said FGFCX polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a deletion mutant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and said FCTR polypeptide is selected from SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12 SEQ ID NO:14, and C-terminal fragments thereof having an apparent molecular weight of approximately 35 kDa.
18. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the subject is a mammal.
19. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the subject is a human.

20. - 21. (cancelled)
22. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the inflammatory pathology is inflammatory bowel disease.
23. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the inflammatory pathology is an inflammatory condition occurring in the colon.
24. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the inflammatory pathology is an inflammatory condition occurring in the small intestine.
25. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the inflammatory pathology is Crohn's disease.
26. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the polypeptide comprises administered to the subject intravenously.
27. (original) The method described in claim 17 wherein the polypeptide comprises administered to the subject subcutaneously.
28. (currently amended) A method of ameliorating ~~an~~ a gastrointestinal inflammatory pathology in a subject comprising administering to the subject a composition comprising a combination of a FGFCX polypeptide and a FCTR_X polypeptide, wherein said composition is administered in an amount effective to ameliorate said inflammatory pathology and wherein said FGFCX polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a deletion mutant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and said FCTR_X polypeptide is selected from SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12 SEQ ID NO:14, and C-terminal fragments thereof having an apparent molecular weigh of approximately 35 kDa.
29. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the subject is a mammal.
30. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the subject is a human.
31. - 32. (cancelled)

33. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the inflammatory pathology is inflammatory bowel disease.

34. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the inflammatory pathology is an inflammatory condition occurring in the colon.

35. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the inflammatory pathology is an inflammatory condition occurring in the small intestine.

36. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the inflammatory pathology is Crohn's disease.

37. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the polypeptide comprises administered to the subject intravenously.

38. (original) The method described in claim 28 wherein the polypeptide comprises administered to the subject subcutaneously.

39. (currently amended) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition comprising combining at least one polypeptide effective in treating ~~an~~ a gastrointestinal inflammatory pathology with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a FGFCX polypeptide, a FCTR~~X~~ polypeptide, and a combination of a FGFCX polypeptide and a FCTR~~X~~ polypeptide, wherein said FGFCX polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a deletion mutant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and said FCTR~~X~~ polypeptide is selected from SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12 SEQ ID NO:14, and C-terminal fragments thereof having an apparent molecular weigh of approximately 35 kDa.

40. (original) The method described in claim 39 wherein the inflammatory pathology is inflammatory bowel disease, an inflammatory condition occurring in the colon, an inflammatory condition occurring in the small intestine, or Crohn's disease.

41. (original) The method described in claim 39 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for intravenous administration to a subject.

42. (original) The method described in claim 39 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for subcutaneous administration to a subject.

43. (original) The method described in claim 39 wherein the polypeptide comprises a combination of a FGFCX polypeptide and a FCTR_X polypeptide.

44. - 45. (cancelled)